## A Multi-Level Model to Address Cervical Cancer Disparities in Appalachia

Electra D. Paskett, Ph.D. for the OSU CPHHD

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CARE



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G C A THANKING T G GIND

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## Appalachia



<sup>(</sup>Appalachian Regional Commission, 2009)

- Appalachia consists of 420 counties in 13 states
- 5 regions: Northern, North Central, Central, South Central and Southern
- Appalachian Regional Commission defined in 1965 in response to region's deficits
- 24.8 million residents (about 8% of total U.S. population)





# **Characteristics Of Appalachia**

- Both urban and rural areas
- Less racial diversity

- 12% minorities in Appalachia, 31% in U.S.
- Higher rates of poverty
  - Poverty rate: 16.6% in Appalachia, 12.3% in U.S.
  - 78 Appalachian counties are considered "distressed"
- Lower education
  - High school diploma: 77% in Appalachia, 81% in U.S.
  - Bachelor's degree: 18% in Appalachia, 25% in U.S.

(\*\*All figures from Census 2000 data\*\*)



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## Health In Appalachia

- Appalachia is a traditionally underserved area in terms of the health care system
- Excess mortality exists in Appalachia with cancer and heart disease being leading causes of death
- Cancer is the leading cause of death
- Factors contributing to health disparities in region
  - Lower SES
  - Lack of medical care facilities and health care providers
  - Poor health behaviors
  - Poor communication with health care providers



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#### **Cells to Society: Overcoming Health Disparities**

http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/populationhealthcenters/cphhd/index.html









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#### Model for Analysis of Population Health and Health Disparities



(Warnecke et al., AJPH 2008)



OSU Center for Population Health And Health Disparities (CPHHD)



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91

# To understand why Appalachian Ohio women have high incidence and mortality rates for cervical cancer





CARE-I aka the First 5 Years



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Lay Health Advisor Intervention to Improve Pap Smear Utilization among Ohio Appalachian Women

Project Leader: Electra D. Paskett, PhD Mira Katz, PhD Paul Reiter, PhD Jill M. Oliveri, MPH, DrPH Amy Lehman, MS Stan Lemeshow, PhD Douglas Post, PhD Mack Ruffin, MD

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## **Components of the Intervention**

- Two in-person visits by a LHA
- Mailed materials based on Stages of Change
- Phone calls
- LHA assessed cervical cancer risk, addressed barriers to receiving a Pap test, and provided educational materials
- Usual care received a letter from their doctor and brochure about Pap tests
- Women were in program for 10 months



# Summary of MRR Pap Status (N=270)



\* Clinic included as a random effect

# Summary of Self-Reported Pap Status (N=235)



\*Adjusted for age, race, education, employment status, SES, marital status, health insurance, and previous abnormal Pap. Clinic included as a random effect in models.

(Paskett, et al., CEBP, 2011)

Evaluation of a Lay Advisor Cessation Intervention in Ohio Appalachian Women

Project Leader: Mary Ellen Wewers, PhD Pam Salsberry, PhD Amy Ferketich, PhD Karen Ahijevych, PhD Bryan Ball, MS Electra Paskett, PhD Stanley Lemeshow, PhD

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## **Components of the Intervention**

- Cessation protocol delivered by trained LHA
  - Behavioral counseling
  - Nicotine replacement therapy (NRT)
  - 10-week period
- Control arm
  - Signed letter from provider advising they quit
  - Print information on how to quit and use of NRT
  - Make an appointment to discuss treatment options



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All p-values are <0.02 except for 12 month (p=0.09)

(Wewers et al, CEBP, 2009)



## Predictors of Abnormal Cervical Cytology

Project Leader: Mack T. Ruffin, MD Electra D. Paskett, PhD Ron Glaser, PhD Janice Kiecolt-Glaser, PhD Mary Ellen Wewers, PhD Elizabeth Unger, MD, PhD



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# **HPV Prevalence By Type**



# **Correlates of Infection with High-Risk HPV Type** (n=1116)

	OR (95% CI)
Age 18-26	3.2 (1.9-5.7)**
Current smoker	1.5 (1.0-2.3)*
Prior abnormal Pap test	1.5 (1.0-2.2)*
5+ lifetime partners	2.6 (1.7-3.9)**
2+ partners in last year	1.7 (1.1-2.7)*

\*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.001

### **Appalachian Culture**

Abnormal Pap test rates Smoking prevalence HPV rates Poverty Risky sex behaviors Depression

#### Healthcare access Healthcare provider trust

COSHOCTON COUNTY





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# OSU CPHHD: CARE-II



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#### **CARE II: A SDH Model For Addressing Cervical Cancer Disparities In Appalachia**



Inherited and Somatic Alterations of the TGFß Ligand and Receptor Complex in Cervical Cancer

Project Leader: Chris Weghorst, PhD David Cohn, MD Gerard Nuovo, MD Thomas J. Knobloch, PhD Mack T. Ruffin IV, MD, MPH



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## **Overall Goal**

Determine the role of heritable and somatically acquired genetic alterations in relation to key components of the Transforming Growth Factor  $\beta$ (TGF-ß) receptor complex, whose variant forms are established cancer susceptibility alleles, or associated with cancer development.





**Transforming Growth Factor –** β Receptor Pathway

- Frequently altered in human cancers
  - Somatic deletions, insertions and mutations
  - Deregulation of gene and protein expression
  - Polymorphic variants
    - SNPs
    - TGFBR1\*6A
- Examine association between genotypes and cancer status



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# **Catchment Area and Enrollment**



CARE-II

- Cervical Ca Cases = 173
- Healthy Controls = 113
  - Blood, buccal swab, HPV
  - Questionnaires

# CARE-I

- Healthy Controls = 729
  - Blood, HPV
  - Questionnaires



# TGFB1: rs1800469

- Ligand for the pathway
- SNP in promoter region
- Interaction of smoking status by genotype:

(*p* = 0.02)

 Homozygous never smokers, protective effect





# TP53: rs1042522

- Apoptosis and cell cycle in cervical cancer
- Interaction of smoking status by genotype
  - (*p* = 0.02)
  - G/G never smokers have higher risk



### **Multi-Level Causes and Interactions**

Project 1: What is the prevalence of a genetic polymorphism in Appalachian population with cervical cancer vs control women?







Social Networks and Tobacco Use among Ohio Appalachian Women

Project Leader: Mary Ellen Wewers, Ph.D. Amy Ferketich, Ph.D. Valdis Krebs, Ph.D. Christopher Browning Ph.D. Doug Post, Ph.D.



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# **Social Networks and Smoking Patterns**

PROBLEM:

- Tobacco use is a putative risk factor for cervical cancer
- Smoking prevalence in Ohio among women = 24%
- Smoking prevalence among Ohio Appalachian women = 32%

Project 2:

- Goal: Characterize social networks by smoking status
  - never, former and current smokers
- Determine the association between individual, interpersonal, workplace and community characteristics and social networks


# **Research Design**

- Cross-sectional survey:
  - Administered by trained OSU interviewer who resided in Appalachian County
  - Face-to-face interview lasting approximately one hour
    - Data captured on REDCap platform and sent electronically to OSU server
  - Respondent reimbursed with \$50 gift card for time and effort
  - Most interviews conducted in participant's home or a county agency

(Thomson TL et al, 2018)



# **Sample Characteristics**

N=408	Mean	Percent	Median
Age	51.7 Range 18 - 95		
Health insurance coverage		88.7 %	
High CES-D score		17.6%	
Current Smoker		20.1%	
Former Smoker		22.5%	
Full-time/Part-time Employment		48.0%	
Bachelor or Higher Education		24.0%	
Household Income (\$)			40,000-49,999





#### Multinomial logistic regression model for differences by smoking status

(N=383; 74 current smokers, 87 former smokers, 222 never smokers)

Variable	Unit		OR former vs. current	OR never vs. current	p	o-value
Individual level factor						
Age	One unit increase	1.	07 (1.03 – 1.11)	1.06 (1.02 - 1.09)		8000.0
CES-D score	One unit increase	0.	95 (0.91 – 0.999)	0.93 (0.88 - 0.98)		0.0157
Intrapersonal level factor	Intrapersonal level factor					
Social influence-injunctive	One unit increase	0.	77 (0.63 – 0.94)	0.70 (0.58 – 0.85)		0.0010
norm						
Social participation	One unit increase	1.	17 (0.95 – 1.45)	1.36 (1.10 – 1.67)		0.0047
% ties who smoke in advice	10% increase	0.	76 (0.62 – 0.92)	0.72 (0.59 – 0.87)		0.0032
network						
E/I index in time network	0.1 unit increase	0.	80 (0.71 – 0.90)	0.76 (0.67 – 0.86)		<.0001
E/I index in advice network	0.1 unit increase	0.	.82 (0.74 – 0.92)	0.80 (0.72 - 0.90)		0.0003
Neighborhood level factor						
Neighborhood cohesion	One unit increase	0.	88 (0.78 – 0.997)	0.86 (0.76 - 0.97)		0.0406

(Nemeth JM, et al., 2018)



Project 2: Can the social networks of Appalachian female smokers assist in smoking cessation?



4

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# **Perfect Storm for Cervical Cancer?**

- Tobacco Use Carcinogen
- Genetics among non-smokers
- Infection with HPV? HPV Vaccine uptake? Efficacy of HPV vaccine?



# HPV Immunization Response and Stress

Project Leader: Mack Ruffin, MD

Erinn Hade, Pat Fahey, Liza Christian, Cecilia DeGraffinreid, Lori Hill, Mary Chambers, Megan Cleland



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# **Model of Stress and HPV Infection**



- Age
  - Mean=22.8 years (2.4)
- Race
  - White (85.4%)
- Marital Status
  - Single 138 (70.4%)
- Income Ladder
  - Community=5.9 (1.8)
  - Nation=5.7 (1.9)
- Neighborhood Cohesion17.6 (4.0)
- Self-Id as Appalachian
  - 72 (38.9%)
- Never had sex
  - 8 (4.3%)
- Sexual Partners
  - 6.5 (3.4%)

- Age First Intercourse
   16.6 years (2.3)
- Smoking
  - Current 48 (26%)
- Drink Alcohol
  - Yes 134 (72.4%)
  - Binge in last month
    66 (49% of Drinkers)
- Drug Use 40 (22%)
- BMI Mean 27.5 (8.0)Overweight/obese (51%)
- Prior Abnormal pap43 (30%)
- Perceived Stress Scale
  - Mean PSS= 23.5 (8.1 sd)
- CES-D Score
  - Median 9
  - <u>></u> 16 51 (28%)





# **Baseline Biological Measures**

#### **Cervical HPV DNA**

- Negative = 85 (50%)
- HPV 16 = 15 (8 %)
- HPV 18 = 5 (3 %)



### Serology

- HPV Serology +
  - HPV 16 = 43 (23 %)
  - HPV 18 = 26 (14%)
- EBV Titers
  - Negative = 16 (9%)
  - Low = 40 (22%)
  - Medium= 116 (63%)
  - High = 13 (7%)



# **Does Stress Impact Immune Response to HPV** Vaccine?

- Impact on HPV 18 Titer Change
  - Perceived Stress Scale
    - 10 unit increase resulted in a 22% decrease in titer change
    - Not clinically significant difference
- Impact on HPV 16 Titer Change
  - Number of Lifetime Sexual Partners
    - <u>></u> 4 than 60% higher titer change
- No other variables impacted titers

HPV vaccine will have an effect on the immune system of Appalachian women







# **Multi-Level Causes and Interactions**

*Project 3: Do Appalachian women who are "stressed" develop immunity to HPV after receiving the vaccine?* 



The PARENT (Parents in Appalachia Receive Education Needed for Teens) Project

Project Leader: Electra Paskett, PhD

Cathy Tatum, MA Mike Pennell, PhD Morgan Richardson Mira Katz, PhD Paul Reiter, PhD Janice Raup-Krieger, PhD David Cohn, MD



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# **Primary Aims**

- To develop and evaluate a multi-level HPV vaccine intervention to increase HPV vaccination rates among young girls and adolescent females (9-17) living in Ohio Appalachia
- Levels:
  - Parents of female adolescents who live in Ohio Appalachia (Level 1)
  - Health care providers who practice at health departments and provider offices (Level 2)
  - Health departments and provider offices in Ohio Appalachia (Level 3)
- Intervention tested in 6 Ohio Appalachia counties (intervention) vs
   6 usual care Ohio Appalachia counties (control)
  - Control counties receive education on the flu and the flu vaccine

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# **HPV Vaccine Uptake: Group Randomized Trial**

# **First Shot within Three Months**

Received Shot	Control Arm	HPV Arm	p-value	
Yes	4 (3%)	10 (8%)	0.045	
No	120 (97%)	120 (92%)		

# First Shot within Six Months (Ever)

Received Shot	<b>Control Arm</b>	HPV Arm	p-value	
Yes	8 (7%)	17 (13%)	0.003	
No	116 (94%)	113 (87%)		

Paskett E, et al., CEBP 2016



# **Results: Secondary Outcome Predictors of Shot within Three Months**

Received Shot	Didn't Receive Shot	OR (95% CI)	p-value
47.9 ± 7.7	43.4 ± 6.5	1.10 (1.02, 1.19)	0.016
10 (9%)	100 (91%)	3 50 (1 07 11 /8)	0 020
4 (3%)	140 (97%)	ref	0.023
	Received Shot 47.9 ± 7.7 10 (9%) 4 (3%)	Received Shot         Didn't Receive Shot           47.9 ± 7.7         43.4 ± 6.5           10 (9%)         100 (91%)           4 (3%)         140 (97%)	Received ShotDidn't Receive ShotOR (95% CI)47.9 ± 7.743.4 ± 6.51.10 (1.02, 1.19)10 (9%)100 (91%)3.50 (1.07, 11.48)4 (3%)140 (97%)ref





# **Multi-Level Interactions and Interventions**

Project 4: Can a multi-level intervention improve HPV vaccination rates among young girls?







2

# Can we now create a multi-level model to explain cervical cancer disparities in Appalachia?









# Acknowledgements

#### **INVESTIGATORS**:

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# What's Next?







### **A CANCER FREE WORLD STARTS HERE**

Improving Uptake of Cervical Cancer Prevention Services in Appalachia

ELECTRA PASKETT, PHD OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ROGER ANDERSON, PHD UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA MARK DIGNAN, PHD UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY STEPHENIE KENNEDY-REA, EDD WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY



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# Goal

- To address the burden of cervical cancer in Appalachia through the delivery of a clinic-based integrated prevention program that focuses on:
  - Tobacco smoking
  - Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination
  - Lack of cervical cancer screening
- Designed to target individual, social and community, health system and broader contextual-level barriers related to the burden of cervical cancer.
- Across 4 Appalachian states, in FQHC's with 4 partner universities





- Test the effectiveness of an integrated cervical cancer prevention program designed to address three causes of cervical cancer
- Evaluate the impact of the cervical cancer prevention program at the clinics, including:
  - Implementation
  - Acceptability
    - Short term impact
    - Long term impact
  - Bundling
  - Sustainability
- New wrinkle: COVID-19
  - Delay in starting Phase 2
  - In person vs telehealth vs putting off visits/appointments
  - Clinic viability/staffing

59



# **Program Project Organization and Leadership**









TACGGCAATC

# Synergy

- All projects and cores focus on:
  - Reducing risk of Cervical Cancer throughout generations in families
  - Multi-level Framework for Addressing Disparities
  - Implementation Science



Model for Analysis of Population Health and Health Disparities



Break Free: Effectiveness of a Multi-level Smoking Cessation Program Adapted for Highrisk Women in Rural Communities The "Break Free" Program

Project Leaders: Roger Anderson, PHD & Amy Ferketich, PHD

Jessica Burris, PHD, Co-Investigator Robert Kleges, PHD, Co-Investigator Amie Ashcraft, PHD, Co-Investigator

**Goal:** to embed an evidence-based smoking cessation program – Break Free – within a larger, multifaceted, integrated cervical cancer prevention program

# Project 1





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# **Project Aims**



- Aim 1: Test the effectiveness of a physician-level intervention based on a Theory of Planned Behavior framework.
  - Compare changes in knowledge and attitudes of providers via educational session pre-post surveys; and
  - Identify changes in clinic practices that occur as a result of the program in terms
    of role responsibilities for cessation.
- Aim 2: Test a patient-level community-health worker smoking cessation intervention to reduce cervical cancer risk in rural women aged 18 to 65 years.
- Aim 3: Test the efficacy of a novel intervention sub-component that delays smoking cessation based on readiness to quit by promoting smoking reduction phased to smoking cessation.



*Testing Multi-Level Interventions to Improve HPV Vaccination: The "I Vaccinate" Program* 

#### Project Leader: Electra Paskett, PhD

Pamela Murray, MD, MHP, Co-Investigator Jessica Malpass, PHD, Co-Investigator Mira Katz, PHD, Co-Investigator Mark Dignan, PHD, Co-Investigator

 Goal: Increase adherence to HPV vaccination recommendations by testing a multi-level intervention at health system levels of clinic, provider, parent and patient

# Project 2

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# **Project Aims**



- Test the effectiveness of a multi-level intervention (MLI) directed at clinics, provider, and patients to improve HPV vaccine initiation and completion in health systems in 4 Appalachian states (KY, OH, WV, and VA) among:
  - Children aged 11-12; and
  - Those aged 13-45 for catch-up vaccination.





A Multi-level HPV Self-Testing Intervention to Increase Cervical Cancer Screening among Women in Appalachia

#### Project Leaders: Paul Reiter, PHD & Mira Katz, PHD

Emma Mitchell, PHD, Co-Investigator Amie Ashcraft, PHD, Co-Investigator Mark Dignan, PHD, Co-Investigator Mack Ruffin, MD (Consultant)

**Goal:** to determine the effectiveness and implementation of a multilevel cervical cancer screening intervention that features a mail-based HPV self-testing program for unscreened and underscreened women in Appalachia

# Project 3





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- Aim 1: Determine the efficacy of the multilevel intervention
- Aim 2: Identify predictors of HPV self-test return and receipt of follow-up among high-risk HPV-positive women
- Aim 3: Determine the prevalence of high-risk HPV infection among self-test returners and cervical abnormalities among women found to be positive for high-risk HPV



# **Bundling – Clinic Level**

- Woman in office visit:
  - Smokes
  - Needs Pap
    - Has children who need HPV vaccine
    - Is under age 45
- Provider can address all aspects of the program
  - Introduce each intervention to providers one at a time
    - HPV vaccine
    - Smoking
    - Pap Testing
- Over first 9 months of Active Intervention Period
  - Last 3 months teach how to bundle
  - Sustainability phase will test this further





# **Evaluation Framework**





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70

# **Evaluation**

# Program-level Analyses

 Examine contributions of individual, community, primary care practice, and intervention effects on uptake of recommended cervical cancer prevention services in the participating clinics

# Individual-level Variables

- Variables collected directly through surveys, ecological level data
- Core variables demographics, residence location, and provider(s) seen
- Create unique variables to address project-specific objectives

# Contextual Variables

 Indicators of population characteristics, health care supply, and location of health care resources

# Cost-effectiveness

71

- Analyses for each project as well as an analysis for the entire program
- Cost identification analysis combined with outcome measures to establish the cost per desirable outcome
- Exploratory cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness analyses to assess sustainability











# **Questions?**





#### IS THE **HPV VACCINE** FOR MY DAUGHTER?

TALK TO YOUR NURSE OR DOCTOR.



You have hopes for your daughter and they do not include cervical cancer. Protect your daughter against HPV by having her vaccinated now.







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